

zoz-b

File No.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

Section 2, Special Branch ~~Shanghai~~  
REPORT

Date January 14, 1936.

Subject J. W. Ross, enquiry from Manufacturers' Life Insurance Co.

Made by D.P.S. Henchman.

Forwarded by

*J.B. Ross*

In compliance with the instructions of the Deputy Commissioner (Special Branch) on the attached enquiry I have to state that since April 1934, when he ceased publication of his Anti-Nazi newspaper the "Shanghai Anzieger", Ross has been engaged in the insurance business. His newspaper was published for little over a fortnight and when it closed down he owed the Comacrib Press about \$800. which has not been repaid. Until about a month ago Ross, although not actually employed by the Crown Life Insurance Co., was permitted by the firm to use their offices and to assist one of their employees, a Miss Abraham, in selling policies, Ross taking a share of the commissions in the event of a successful deal. Owing, however, to a disagreement with the manager, he was told that this arrangement must be discontinued and that he was not, in future, to use the Crown Life offices. Ross then sought employment with the Manufacturers Life Insurance Co. and was successful in obtaining a post which he still holds.

His present address is at House No. 1, Lane 1220, Avenue Road.

*D. P. S. Henchman*

D. P. S.

Deputy Commissioner (Special Branch)

IN REFERRING TO POLICIES PLEASE QUOTE NUMBERS

THE  
**MANUFACTURERS**  
INSURANCE Co **LIFE** OF CANADA

CHIEF OFFICE FOR GREAT BRITAIN No 1 REGENT STREET LONDON S W 1

CABLE ADDRESS "MANULIFE"  
TELEPHONES 13182-13183-13184

BRANCH MANAGER GRAEME D NICHOLL

CHIEF OFFICE FOR NORTH CHINA

**HAMILTON HOUSE**  
170 KIANGSE ROAD  
SHANGHAI

HEAD OFFICE TORONTO CANADA  
ESTABLISHED 1887

ASSETS EXCEED £25,000,000

17th December, 1935.

Major K. M. Bourne, M.C.,  
Deputy Commissioner,  
Shanghai Municipal Police,  
Foochow Road,  
SHANGHAI.

Dear Major Bourne,

Re: John W. Ross

The above has applied to become  
a member of our Agency Staff and I shall  
be glad to know whether your records show  
anything against the character of the  
above.

If you prefer to discuss the  
matter rather than communicate in writing,  
I shall be very glad to come over at any  
time convenient to you.

Yours sincerely,

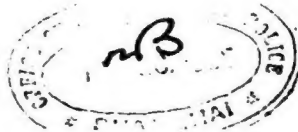
*Græme D Nicholl*

GDN/cl

BRANCH MANAGER.

*S2, Please bring information  
in report dated August 22, '34,  
up to date. JWG*

*DC (Sp B-)  
Plan finish data*



*DS/Houchman  
JWR  
19/12*

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE  
File No. S. B. REGISTRY.

S.2, Special Branch ~~55000~~

REPORT

No. D 6353  
Date 25 1 8 134  
August 22, 1934

Subject (in full)..... Dr. J.W. Ross; - alleged smuggling activities.

Made by..... D.S. Pitts

Forwarded by

*J. R. D.*

On August 17, 1934 an Australian calling himself Dr. J.W. Ross approached a certain person with the request that he be placed in touch with somebody who could translate Greek into English and vice-versa, as he (Ross) was making enquiries on behalf of the Shanghai Municipal Police into the activities of an international gang of narcotic smugglers.

The following information has been secured regarding Ross :-

A native of Richmond (N.S.W.) he was born about 34 years ago. He obtained a medical degree (M.D.) in Johannesburg, S.A., and from January 1, 1923 until November 17, 1926 acted as private secretary to D.S. Davidson, General Manager of H.E. Babb & Co. Ltd., Carlton House, Eloff St., Johannesburg.

From August 1, 1931 until April, 1933 Ross acted in a secretarial capacity to the Minister of the Court to H.I.H. Shah Reza Khan I of Persia, but his engagement was broken off with the incidence of political troubles in Persia when the Minister of the Court was arrested.

He arrived in Shanghai in August 1933 and from November of that year until March 1934 was employed with "Shanghai Deutscher Zeitung," Simon Eberhardt's daily German newspaper.

He had some trouble with Eberhardt and left to commence business on his own but soon failed.

Ross says he can speak and write English, French, German, Spanish, Portuguese and Persian fluently, that he is an accomplished accountant, stenographer and aviator, and in addition is a qualified medical practitioner.

He is an extremely well-dressed individual and

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No. ....

REPORT

Station, .....

Date, ..... 19

Subject (in full)....

- 2 -

Made by....

Forwarded by....

appears to be quite a cultured gentleman, although it is known that during the last few months he has borrowed over \$400.00 from various people and made no attempt to repay that sum. He gives one the impression that he is a very suave kind of individual.

Reverting to the first paragraph, Ross was placed in touch with a Greek named E. Moatsos, unemployed, who can speak Greek, English, Russian, French, Italian and Chinese (Shanghai dialect). His whereabouts in Shanghai are not known but could, undoubtedly, be soon ascertained.

*ga. Pitts.*

D. S.

Ross is not registered at the local British consulate. General P.I.

Officer i/c Special Branch.

DC (Crime)

Information

Thos Robertson  
Supt

*Noted.*

*Pa. G.*

*PA CB*

*24/6.*